



~~Department of State~~

TELEGRAM

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 AF-10 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OODE-00 EB-09
COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 /086 W
-----240709Z 090979 /10

R 240545Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2345
INFO AMEMBASSXOIMLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBAFCY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 2778

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, AF, UR
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT DAQUD'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: A) MOSCOW 5177 ✓ B) KABUL 2656 ✓ C) MOSCOW 5477 ✓

1. AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER WAHEED ABDULLAH APRIL 20 GAVE ME A FEW MORE DETAILS OF PRESIDENT DAQUD'S APRIL 12-15 VISIT TO MOSCOW.

2. ABDULLAH SAID THAT THE ECONOMIC AGREEMENT WHICH WAS SIGNED WAS A STANDARD AGREEMENT WHICH THE SOVIETS MAKE WITH

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND WOULD IN DUE COURSE BE PUBLISHED. THE ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS DEALT LARGELY, HE SAID, WITH THE USES TO BE MADE OF THE OUTSTANDING \$700 MILLION OF SOVIET CREDITS TO AFGHANISTAN. THE SOVIETS HAD AGREED TO ASSIST WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 500,000-TON-PER-YEAR OIL REFINERY IN NORTHERN AFGHANISTAN AND WITH THE EXPLOITATION OF THE COPPER DEPOSITS NEAR KABUL. ABULLAH SAID THAT THERE IS AS YET NO FIRM ESTIMATE OF AFGHAN

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OIL RESERVES. BUT THE BEST GUESS WAS 60-70 MILLION

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TONS WHICH HE SAID WAS ENOUGH FOR TWENTY YEARS' DOMESTIC USE. HE WAS AWARE OF THE —
STATING THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD SOON BECOME A NET —
IMPORTER OF OIL AND SPECULATED THAT THIS WAS AMONG
THE REASONS THE SOVIETS ARE WILLING TO ASSIST AFGHAN
OIL DEVELOPMENT. COMMENT: THE AFGHAN-SOVIET TWELVE-
YEAR, RENEWABLE ECONOMIC AGREEMENT WAS PUBLISHED IN
KABUL APRIL 21. IT CALLS FOR GENERAL COOPERATION ON
THE BASIS OF SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS WHICH WILL BE
CONCLUDED FOR EACH PROJECT. COPY POUCH NEA.

END COMMENT

3. ON POLITICAL MATTERS, ABDULLAH SAID HE FOUND THE
SOVIETS PREOCCUPIED WITH TWO AREAS OF THE WORLD:
SOUTHERN AFRICA AND SOUTH ASIA. ON THE FORMER,
PODGORNY SEEMED PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS OF HIS RECENT
TRIP. ON THE LATTER, NOT SURPRISINGLY A SUBJECT FOR
AN AFGHAN-SOVIET GET-TOGETHER, ABDULLAH SAID THE
SOVIETS SEEMED WORRIED ABOUT THE SWING TO THE RIGHT,
AS ABDULLAH TERMED IT, IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN. IN
RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, ABDULLAH SAID THAT THE
SOVIETS ARE ALSO NOT CONTENT WITH INTERNAL EVENTS IN
AFGHANISTAN, ADDING THAT THEY ARE IN GENERAL UN-
HAPPY WITH THE SUCCESS OF AMERICAN POLICY IN SUPPORT-
ING NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS. BUT HE ALSO ADDED THAT
THE SOVIETS TREATED DAQUD WITH GREAT RESPECT AND WERE
CAREFUL TO BE SENSITIVE TO HIS NATIONALIST PRIDE.

4. REGARDING THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP, ABDULLAH SAID
HE WAS STRUCK WITH THE CLEAR DECLINE IN BREZHNEV'S
HEALTH OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS. HE ALSO REMARKED
THAT GROMYKO, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE IN AFGHAN-SOVIET
DISCUSSIONS, TOOK THE LEAD AT SEVERAL POINTS IN THE
TALKS.

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